



# DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

## INFORMATION SERVICE

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

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### FISHING VESSEL LANDINGS DURING MAY AT BOSTON, GLOUCESTER AND PORTLAND

Approximately 49.2 million pounds of fresh fish, spread among 24 classifications and valued at \$1,217,000, were landed during May by 267 fishing vessels at the three ports of Portland, Maine; and Boston and Gloucester, Massachusetts, according to statistics released today by the Division of Fishery Industries, Fish and Wildlife Service, United States Department of the Interior, in Statistical Bulletin No. 1429.

Compared with the preceding month, this represents an increase of 6.4 million pounds, or 15 percent, in volume, and \$61,000, or 5 percent, in value. Compared with May 1940 when the catch amounted to 22.4 million pounds, valued at \$671,000, this indicates an increase of 119 percent in volume and 81 percent in value. These low figures of a year ago, however, are chiefly accounted for by the labor controversy in Boston which tied up fishing activities from the middle of March until the latter part of June.

The unusually heavy landings during May were accounted for principally by large landings of cod, haddock, mackerel, and rosefish. Receipts of cod were 176 percent above those for May 1940, while landings of haddock increased 51 percent, mackerel 657 percent, pollock 112 percent, and rosefish 215 percent.

Receipts of rosefish at the three ports were the largest for any month since the inception of the fishery. Total deliveries of this species during May amounted to 17,309,000 pounds, of which 13,260,000 pounds were landed at Gloucester. In spite of the large increase in rosefish deliveries, the price for this species averaged 1.80 cents per pound as compared with 1.58 cents in May 1940, when the landings amounted to 5,502,000 pounds.

Average price per pound of all species landed during May 1941 amounted to 2.47 cents, compared with 2.99 cents for the same month last year.

For the five-month period ending with May, the total landings at the three ports amounted to 175,849,000 pounds, valued at \$5,518,000. For the same period in 1940, the landings totaled 114,965,000 pounds, worth \$3,988,000.

Boston landings totaled 29,231,000 pounds, valued at \$826,000. The May 1940 catch amounted to 13,778,000 pounds, worth \$491,000.

Most abundant species in the Boston landings included: large haddock (9.2 million pounds, valued at \$302,000); market cod (4.6 million pounds, valued at \$106,000); scrod haddock (4.2 million pounds, valued at \$130,000); large cod (2.5 million pounds, worth \$66,000); rosefish (2.4 million pounds, at \$43,000); and mackerel (2.2 million pounds, valued at \$46,000).

At Gloucester, the month's catch totaled 16,210,000 pounds, valued at

\$309,000. Rosefish, with 13.3 million pounds, worth \$244,000, surpassed all other species.

Landings at Portland during May amounted to 3,717,000 pounds, worth \$82,000. Leading species was rosefish, with 1.6 million pounds, valued at \$25,000.